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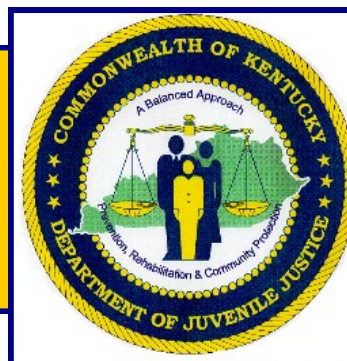
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Juvenile Justice Journal



Shakespeare Behind Bars

Teens learn life lessons from Shakespeare.

"Men at some time are masters of their fates"

-'Julius Caesar', Act I, Scene II

By Pamela Dipasquale

On March 20th, forty cherubic faced teens from Louisville's Audubon Youth Development Center stepped off a bus and into the clean, crisp air. They were laughing and smiling at the prospect of beginning what they had been calling their "joke" field trip, but a quick bark of "hands behind your back and line up," from the corrections officer who had been riding in the bus with them wiped the smiles away.

The teens, who are in a treatment program for male Public and Youth Offenders requiring a minimum-security placement, were about to embark on a journey that would change the way many of them thought about the world, the prison system and themselves. They were about to spend a few hours with the inmates of

Shakespeare Behind Bars at Luther Luckett Correctional Complex.

Each of the forty boys has been participating in a Shakespeare's Studio Artist Residency at Louisville's Audubon Youth Development Center. Using selections from "Julius Caesar", the students are learning about themselves and studying themes such as greed, peer pressure, and corruption. They have been using Shakespeare's text as a tool to learn tolerance and conflict resolution, but on the morning of March 20th, many are still resistant to the process, and prefer to jeer at each other's efforts in class than participate with honesty.

"Give me the first five boys," calls out another corrections officer from inside Luther Luckett. Five boys walk in. They are asked to walk through a metal detector, ushered to another officer who takes down their name, and tags them with an ID bracelet, then sent to yet another officer to be searched. Any smiles left on their faces surface only from nervous energy. Once the boys are processed, they are

taken through a large door that closes with a jarring bang behind them. They are then escorted to a room, and pass by two more doors that close with steely thunder. None of the boys speak. They sit and wait for the inmates to arrive.

When the inmates arrive, they demonstrate with incredible focus the same group activities the boys have been attempting for the past weeks. With great respect for each other and their art, the inmates prove that there is no room for jeering in a rehearsal room, and quickly embrace any mistakes that are made, and instead of judgment, there is encouragement. The inmates move quickly into a scene from Julius Caesar that requires crowd participation and the boys are encouraged to chant and call out as if they were part of the scene. The boys are genuinely engaged, and, for more than half of them, this is their first experience of live theatre.

When the scene work draws to an end, the boys are encouraged to ask questions of the inmates, and at the

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Worker of the Month Spotlight



Chris Gadberry

Chris Gadberry is a Youth Worker III and has recently reached the milestone of serving 10 years with the Department of Juvenile Justice and Burnside Group Home. Chris wears many hats at the facility, including medical coordinator. Chris is usually the “go to guy” for medical concerns and questions here at the facility and serves as one of the facility’s First Aid/CPR trainers. He is very knowledgeable about medical issues and maintains consistent communications with our facility nurse, RN Gilreath, and other Burnside Group Home staff members. Over the years, Chris has established positive relationships with local community offices including dentists, psychiatrists, general practitioners, and other medical offices enabling spur of the moment appointments and minimal waiting times giving better care and security for our youths.

Chris also serves as ADO and is always willing to come in whenever needed to

provide shift coverage, respond to an emergency, or to accommodate however and whenever necessary, weekends, holidays, etc. As a Youth Worker III, Chris serves his extra duties and responsibilities without complaints of the pay grade collapse and serves our Department with a sense of pride and duty.

Chris graduated from Pulaski County High school in 1992 and married his high school sweetheart, Deanna Ferrel, in 1993. Daddy’s pride and joy, Jessie Elizabeth Gadberry, was born in March of 2002 and has recently graduated from Kindergarten. Chris often talks about his 88 year old “Granny”, Ruth Gadberry, and how she has guided him with spirituality and inspired him with morals, courage and a strong family value system.

Chris joined the United States Air Force in 1994 and attended his Basic Training and Tech School at Lackland Air Force Base in Texas. After graduating from

Tech School as a Law Enforcement Specialist Honor Graduate, Chris was assigned to his permanent duty station in Minot, North Dakota where finished his enlistment, receiving an Honorable Discharge in 1998. Upon returning home, Chris started his career with DJJ Burnside Group Home in April 1998, and is a graduate of Department of Juvenile Justice Academy # 8. Chris is a member of Immanuel Baptist Church and volunteers for special projects whenever possible. In addition to being a valuable employee, husband, and father, Chris also is currently working on his Bachelor Degree at Liberty University.

(contributed by Tim Conn)

Support Person of the Month Spotlight

Mr. Reynhout relocated to Kentucky from Big Rapids, Michigan, where he worked in many different fields. He did everything from a Certified Mechanic and Maintenance Director, to Blacksmith (he says, "that was an interesting job and I learned so much from doing this kind of work"). While working on the Cranhill Ranch, he would mentor and supervise teenagers and college students with different maintenance projects that needed to be done around the ranch. Mr.

Reynhout stated, "I just didn't know what I wanted to do when I grew up," and he laughs as he says this.

Since the Campbell Regional Juvenile Detention Center (CRJDC) was without maintenance personnel for a year before Mr. Reynhout was hired, you could only imagine the work that was awaiting him.

When Mr. Reynhout started his position with

DJJ in December 2007, he jumped right in and has been working feverishly to get things up to speed.

He has accomplished so many projects that needed to be done, but he still has a list that doesn't seem to end. It's almost like following the yellow brick road. Eventually even that has an ending point, but with maintenance we all know once you reach the end there is always another beginning.

Mr. Reynhout has a great sense of humor and he is a great asset to CRJDC.

Alan and his wife Nancy live in Ft. Thomas, Kentucky; but their children are all grown. One son is in the Marines overseas, a couple still live in Michigan, and one daughter lives in Pennsylvania. They are very simple people who are great to be around.

We would like to welcome Mr. Reynhout to CRJDC and hope that for many years to come he will keep our facility in tip top shape.

(submitted by Mark Cummins)



Alan Reynhout

Upcoming Spotlights

July

Facility-ECS1
Worker-Westport GH
Support-Mayfield GH
CO-La Donna Koebel

August

Facility-Owensboro TC
Worker-CCS2
Support-Breathitt RJDC
CO-Mary Salsman-Buckley

Did You Know?

*The government has some GREAT ideas on how you can save gasoline and money. Start by **slowing down**, then go to this website.*

<http://www.fueleconomy.gov/feg/driveHabits.shtml>

Lincoln Village Youth Development Center had 27 residents obtain their high school diplomas or GEDs this past year. On May 23, they conducted a graduation ceremony and presented thirteen certificates.

Congratulations to all of the graduates!!

(Courtesy: Kristie Stutler)

District Spotlight

For more information on topics presented in this publication, contact James Thompson of DJJ at 502/573-2738 or JamesW.Thompson@ky.gov

West Community Services District 3's main office is located in Hopkinsville, Ky. A satellite office is located in Princeton, Ky. District 3 provides services to six counties in Western Kentucky: Christian, Todd, Trigg, Caldwell, Lyon and Livingston.

In 1996 the West Community Services Office in Hopkinsville was originally located at 110 Riverfront Drive in the DCBS building. DJJ was given office space in cubicles in the hallway to conduct business. Needless to say, space was very limited. In January of 2000 W-3 moved to the current location of 1100 South Main Street, Hopkinsville, KY in what is locally known as the Pennyroyal Building.

W-3 is responsible for providing services to youth

in the community that are worker for 6 years), Ms. Amy Morton JSW (currently serving as the JIST worker), Mr. Harry Neal JSS, Ms. Allison Osborne JSC, Ms. Jill Sivells Administrative Specialist II, Mr. James Shuck JSDS, and Ms. Elaine Tooley JSC, work in the Hopkinsville office.

In Christian County we are fortunate to have our own juvenile police division, who work very well with DJJ. We have a DJJ Day Treatment Center here in Christian County, which is a great benefit to us in the community. Christian County also was one of the first counties in Kentucky to start a juvenile drug court. It began operation in April of 2000. This program greatly serves the youth and families of this community. The KISP program is another resource that has assisted our youth in Christian County.

West District 3 is fully staffed at this time with 12 full time employees. Mr. Neil Bentley JSC, Ms. Nikki Cunningham JSC, and Mr. Scottie Tyler JSC all work in the Princeton Office. Ms. Elizabeth Englert JSC, Ms. Stacy Ezell JSW, Ms. Kenyetta Gray JSC, Ms. Lisa McGee JSC (the JIST

Here in W-3 we have staff that sit on many community agency boards and who stay aware of the issues going on in the community. Mr. Neal is a member of the RIAC board. Ms. Morton is a member of Big Brothers Big Sisters. Ms. Tooley and Mr. Bentley are members of the Youth Services Advisory Board. Ms. McGee is involved in the Gang Task Force.

This can be an emotional and stressful, but also very rewarding, career. The staff you work with can make all the difference. W3 staff have all worked together for some time and feel like family. Having that kind of confidence in your team and support from your team makes the hard times easier to manage and the good times even better....



Ms. Jill Sivells, Administrative Specialist II, on the front line greeting clients.

Shakespeare Behind Bars (cont.)

beginning, most of the questions stem from the adults who have accompanied them. "Do you hope to pursue an acting career, when you are paroled?" An inmate answers, "I might, if I was eligible for parole. I am here for life."

When told that many of the boys wrote journal entries about what a joke they thought this trip was going to be, one inmate walked to the center and stated: "Those converse shoes you are kicking, that navy blue uniform, I kicked them back in 1991. I was at Audubon when I was seventeen. I spent my time there, and three months after I got out, I committed a crime and landed in here before my eighteenth birthday. I am thirty-two now. Thirty two. Let me tell you prison is no

joke. I arrived here, young and sweet like you, and the guys here, you think you're bad? Man you don't know bad, you haven't seen bad until you are on the inside."

The inmate continued on to tell the boys of injustices he witnessed, injustices that were done to him. The years and years he has spent growing old in a cell, losing contact with his friends and his family, the time he had to learn the lessons of life that he wished he had embraced so many years ago when he was wearing their uniform, wearing those converse shoes. Several boys were noticeably upset, some red-faced and tear stained.

One young man raised his hand, wanting to be acknowledged. Invited to speak, the young man stood up and said, "I thought I was

bad, that prison was nothing, that I could do my time like anybody. But I heard what you said man, and I don't want to go to prison. I don't want to go. I am going straighten up man, I am." He then sat down and cried. So too did the boys around him.

Before their time together was over, one inmate warned, "You are going to go back to school today, feeling good, feeling like you just heard the best preacher in the world at a Sunday sermon. You are going to believe that you have been changed. But come next Monday, that feeling will have faded and you are going to go back to feeling the way you did before you came in here. You are going back to your old ways. But I implore you, next time you are faced with a decision of doing right or doing wrong, reach way down into your memory bank and recall

what we told you here today. Remember how badly you didn't want to be like us, and choose right. Choose right."

As a culmination of the residency, in late April the boys will return to the prison to share some of their Shakespeare work and discoveries with the Shakespeare Behind Bars ensemble.

This program is funded in part by the National Endowment for the Arts and Southern Poverty Law Center, Teaching Tolerance.com.

The field trip was a cooperative effort by Kentucky Shakespeare Festival, Audubon Youth Development Center, Luther Luckett Correctional Complex and Kentucky State Penitentiary.

(courtesy [Courier-Journal](#), March 24, 2008)

Louisville Day Treatment and Meadowview Nursing Home

In 1989, Darlene Gibson, a teacher at Louisville Day Treatment (LDT), began searching for a philanthropic project to allow the youth the opportunity to give back to the community. She found Meadowview Nursing Home, less than two miles down the road.

When the project started, the youth went to the nursing home once per month for 1-1/2 hours to play Bingo with the residents. After about a year it was increased to twice per month because the benefits were evident.

LDT youth still continue to visit Meadowview Nursing Home twice a month to play Bingo with the residents.

Each youth is responsible for assisting 1-2 nursing home residents in a variety of ways. Some of the residents have to be pushed in their wheelchair to a table, some have to be helped into a chair from their walker, and all the residents must be given Bingo cards and chips to play. Some of the residents need help playing because they have a hard time hearing or seeing; some are able to play independently but enjoy the company of our youth. One resident, Barbara, was asked why she likes us coming to play Bingo with them. She responded, "we get to talk to the young boys and we really get a kick out of them." Another resident, Clara, said "the boys are so nice."

LDT youth who participate in this project earn community service hours as well as rewards in the program based on the number of times they participate. Most importantly, however, when these youth work with the elderly residents, they are learning and demonstrating skills to help them in their everyday lives. These skills include patience, understanding, compassion, and the ability to help others who may not be able to help themselves. Tammy Noe, Office Coordinator at LDT, who coordinates the project, stated "it is so heartwarming to see these strong, young men be so gentle and compassionate toward these elderly people. They really take pride in being able to help them, and they also take their responsibility seriously." One youth, Roderick, stated "I like to see the

older people having fun and I like taking care of them because it could be my relatives one day." Another youth, Lewis, commented "I like going because the people are nice."

In addition to these regular visits, LDT youth also assist the nursing home with special projects throughout the year including setting up and helping with a White Elephant Sale, the Monte Carlo Day for the residents, and a Volunteer Luncheon. This summer a group of youth, along with Don Steitz, LDT Superintendent, are going to assist the nursing home in taking some of their male residents to a baseball game.

(submitted by Tammy Noe)

Christian County Day Treatment Master's Program

John M. Reed wanted to do more than treat the minds of clients at the Christian County Day Treatment Center. John wanted to treat the "souls" of the youth at his facility. John says that Cognitive Self Change and Behavior Modification are good approaches to helping kids make the necessary changes in their lives. However, John felt that something else was needed. John says that he remembered when schools offered alternative activities that provided balance and pleasure.

It was this desire to offer new and exciting programming that led to the development of the Master's Programs. The Master's Programs offers life long activity options to the youth that have earned higher phases. John says that a youth must have progress or graduation phase and remain appropriate on either phase to participate in the Master's Programs.

The Master's Programs allow youth to choose from golf, fishing/outdoor skills,

electric guitar lessons or a horticulture program. John says that every kid on a higher phase is participating in one of these programs. Kids who have never played golf or gone fishing are learning the skills needed to do these activities. John also says that those youth on lower phases go to a reading / homework room during club time and must read or do homework the entire time. This certainly is a positive motivator for lower phase youth to earn higher phases.

It is working well. John reports an increase in youth earning higher phases since the "club" programs started. John says treatment is about choices. If our facility can offer positive alternative activities that a youth may choose over delinquent activities then all the effort is worth it. Treatment is also about desire. These programs function as an "in-house" motivator for youth to work their treatment plans and earn their progress and graduation phases.

The Master's Program works

like this: Each program: golf, fishing/outdoor skills, electric guitar and growing plants has five skill levels. Youth go from elementary skills to more advanced skills. The completion of each skill level earns a youth a certificate of accomplishment that is displayed on the Master's Program Bulletin Board.

When the youth completes all four skill levels the youth earns a trophy with the title of Master Golfer, Master Caster, Master Musician or Master Grower. John says the kids relate well to earning certificates and trophies. They are really proud when they earn skill levels and they are eager to show off what they have learned. Of course the backbone of these programs is the staff at Day Treatment and community people who have donated most of the materials for running these programs. John reports that staff from DJJ and the Board of Education are pooling their talents in leading these programs.

Juvenile police officers have

donated golf equipment. Court lawyers have donated materials. The Department of Fish and Wildlife, under the support of Marc Johnson, has donated fishing gear. The Court Designated Worker, Mary Johnson has donated fishing gear. The community support has been great and it is good to have a feeling of cooperation with our program staff and people in the community. John says that he is "so excited about the good feeling among staff and community leaders concerning these programs."

"The Master's Program meets each Wednesday for about one hour. I just want kids to have access to the type of opportunities I had growing up and I really think these Master's Program activities help the kids. If you ask the kids they are really excited about these programs. The kids get to use this "excitement" because when any youth achieves the Master's Skill Level they must help the program leader teach these skills to the new program participants."



Master Casters



Master Growers

Owensboro TC Greenhouse Flourishes

This is a collaboration between DJJ and OTC through a grant that was written six years ago. Mr. Riley, the vocational coordinator, teaches job skills that the youth need, such as writing receipts and communicating with the public. The youth also learn to plant and transplant flowers. The greenhouse is a huge success at Owensboro Treatment Center.

OTC has built a relationship with the community and now has an annual pond tour that comes to the facility. Last year the students demonstrated to the community how to build a biological filter. OTC currently has three fish ponds and a functional fish hatchery.

(submitted by Jeffrey Arnold)



DJJ Night with the Louisville Bats

Friday, May 16th was a big party night in Louisville. DJJ employees had a section of the left field seats all to themselves. We sang "Take Me Out to the Ball Park" and watched the fireworks between the double header games. If you did not go, then you missed a great time!

Thanks to Joe Payne and Buddy Irvin for managing the ticket sales!!

Kelly Cline, a DJJ employee and member of the JJAB's Subcommittee of Kentucky Youth, was recently awarded a scholarship by ECU and the JJAB to finish her Master's Degree.



Kelly is congratulated by Dr. Kevin Minor, Chair of Corrections and Juvenile Justice Studies at the College of Justice and Safety at Eastern Kentucky University and Mr. Hasan Davis, Chair of the Juvenile Justice Advisory Board.

(submitted by Stephanie Reynolds)



*Stacy Floden
Program Services Director*

Green Tip:

***Paper or Plastic?
Just say no, and utilize re-usable cloth tote bags instead. Some grocery chains will give you a discount on your purchases.***

***Remember to always:
1)Reduce, 2)Re-use , and
3) Recycle!***



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We're on the Web!
<http://djj.ky.gov>

Central Office Employee Spotlight

Stacy Floden is the Division Director of Program Services at the Department of Juvenile Justice.

Prior to her appointment, she spent two years as the spokesperson for the 2nd largest agency in state government, the Justice Cabinet. Stacy also served as the Public Information Officer at the Office of Drug

Control Policy and the Kentucky Department of Emergency Management.

She was recently honored with the Comair Crash Flight 5191 Commemorative Bronze Coin as a token of gratitude. Stacy also received the Justice and Public Safety Cabinet Secretary's Award in 2007. She is a graduate of Western Kentucky University with a

Bachelor's Degree in Broadcast Communications.

She is proud to claim she was the first woman to perform radio play-by-play for WKU Basketball and the first woman Sports Director at WKU. Stacy enjoys traveling, sports and cheering on the Louisville Cardinals. (She is also co-Editor of the Juvenile Justice Journal.)

Northern and Audubon YDCs Compete in Masonry Skills



Northern KY YDC held the first annual masonry competition in 2007. The technical staff from Audubon and Northern KY did a great job. The two facilities worked with QA and the Office of Career and Tech for assistance. The judges were people from the community, vocational coordinators and other technical teachers. Students were judged on performance, and amount of time to construct the wall. This was a win-win situation for the facilities and the students. (pictures courtesy of Herb Ashton, narrative by Jeffrey Arnold)